

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05530 151627Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 705

S E C R E T TAIPEI 5530

EXDIS

FOR AMB WHITEHOUSE

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS PFOR TH

SUBJECT: REPORTED PRAPHET RETURN TO THAILAND

THIS IS TO ALERT YOU TO THE POSSIBILITY RPT POSSIBILITY
THAT GEN PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIEN IS AT PRESENT ENROUTE TO BANGKOK
PERHAPS UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH COULD PRECIPITATE TROUBLE THERE.

ON SOCIAL OCCASION THIS EVENING HARVEY TOY, PRES., FOSHING
AIRLINES, WHICH IS AGENT FOR SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL
AIRLINES INCLUDING THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERED TO ME
THAT PRAPHAT WAS AT THAT MOMENT (ABOUT 8 PM) ALREADY ENROUTE TO
BANGKOK AND THAT TOMORROW MORNING THE NEWS WOULD BE "IN ALL
THE PAPERS". TOY INSISTED THAT HIS INFORMATION WAS SOLID BUT HE
WAS UNABLE TO TELL ME VERY MUCH MORE ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
IN COURSE OF OUR SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION HE CONVEYED HIS
PERSONAL IMPRESSION THAT PRAPHET'S RETURN WAS KNOWN TO AND BEING
ENGINEERED BY HIS MILITARY FRIENDS BUT ALMOST SURELY BEING CARRIED
OUT WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF FULL THAI GOVERNMENT. HE DID NOT REACT
TO MY QUERY ABOUT GEN. PRAMAN POSSIBLY BEING INVOLVED. HE AGREED
WITH MY OBSERVATION THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY PRAPHAT'S RETURN HAD
TOP THAI GOVERNMENT ASSENT (CFM REPORTED REFUSAL OF
THANOM'S REQUEST) AND IF HE WERE RETURNING ANYWAY
UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES THERE COULD BE SERIOUS TROUBLE.

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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 05530 151627Z

I MENTIONED COL. NARONG (PRAPHAT'S SON-IN-LAW) BUT TOY APPEARED

PERSUADED HE WAS IN GERMANY AND NOT INVOLVED IN TONIGHT'S EVENTS.

WE WILL LET YOU KNOW PROMPTLY OF ANYTHING MORE WE LEARN BUT IT

IS

UNLIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE FURTHER TONIGHT. SORRY IF IT TURNS OUT

I'VE DISTURBED YOUR REST FOR NOTHING*

UNGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TAIPEI05530
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760423-0611
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760852/aaaabszw.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED PRAPHET RETURN TO THAILAND THIS IS TO ALERT YOU TO THE POSSIBILITY RPT POSSIBILITY THAT GEN PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIEN IS AT PRESENT ENROUT
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, OTRA, TH, (PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIEN)
To: BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006